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Report to Convocation

Spring Convocation, Part Three: Walter C. MacKenzie

The Report to Convocation on June 1, 1967, the third part of Spring Convocation at The University of Alberta, was made by Dr. Walter C. MacKenzie, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. An outline of his Report follows.

He said:

Eminent Chancellor—I am pleased to have the honor of presenting, on behalf of the President, a brief Report to Convocation of the activities of the Health Science Faculties.

During the last several years the various health sciences in the University—Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing and Rehabilitation Medicine, in collaboration with The University of Alberta Hospital administration, have had joint discussions in the planning of The University of Alberta Health Sciences Centre. It is gratifying to report today that the planning for the first phase of this complex is well under way and the first building, which will house the Clinical Departments of the Faculty of Medicine, the School of Nursing and the students in the Medical Laboratory Science program, is under construction.

This exciting development has been made possible by (first) the cooperative effort and support of the University administration, the Hospital administration, the Honourable J. Donovan Ross and his colleagues in the Department of Health and the Honourable F. C. Colborne and his colleagues in the Department of Public Works, (second) the untiring efforts of our academic staff in long range planning, and (third) the skill and foresight of the Project Director, Mr. Ronald Clarke.

This Health Sciences Centre will provide a full range of preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, and rehabilitative services to the people of Alberta and, at the same time, will serve as a training centre for urgently required physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, technical staff in many areas and other health science personnel.

Health science education must include a background in the humanities as well as in science; it must be provided in an atmosphere that stimulates challenge and

enquiry, therefore, it is mandatory that the Health Sciences Centre be an integral part of the University. Only a University provides the freedom of environment, the diversity of resources and the required opportunity to experiment with different educational programs.

The Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Faculties, the Schools of Nursing and Rehabilitation Medicine and all other paramedical science educational facilities, in which patient-care, teaching and research are integrated, must eventually be considered as inseparable components of the University-based Health Sciences Centre.

This modern concept brings together the many diverse health science personnel during their training so that they will share experiences and problems as undergraduates so as to be better able to function as a single health team to provide for the patient's total health requirements when they assume their roles in the community.

This is the Golden Anniversary of our Faculty of Pharmacy. It was recognized as a School of the Faculty of Arts and Science fifty years ago, in 1917. The School was transferred to the Faculty of Medicine in 1938, and in 1948 received autonomy as an independent School under the General Faculty Council. In 1955 it became a Faculty, and Dr. M. J. Huston was appointed as Dean. Dr. Huston has continued to provide vigorous and outstanding leadership to this Faculty to make it one of the most outstanding in Canada. In the last year they have inaugurated a four-year program which has been well accepted, they have continued to foster graduate training and research and have

expanded their program in continuing pharmaceutical education.

We note, with pleasure, the presence of two distinguished scientists in the health field who will be awarded honorary degrees today, Dr. A. W. Matthews, a former Director of our School of Pharmacy and Dr. Murray Barr, a distinguished scientist from the University of Western Ontario. It gives us particular pleasure that one of Dr. Barr's early collaborators, Dr. E. G. Bertram, will present him for his degree.

In the dental undergraduate program during the last year there were 194 students, there were 40 in the School of Dental Hygiene and three graduate students. Dr. H. R. MacLean, Dean of Dentistry, states that only one out of four applicants in dentistry can be accepted due to limitation of space. Recently, the academic members of the Faculty of Dentistry have concerned themselves, particularly, with curriculum and dental education studies which will undoubtedly greatly influence further "learning" programs in their Faculty. The clinical areas, that is the general Dental Clinic, the School of Hygiene and the Dental Department of The University of Alberta Hospital, have combined to provide exemplary patient-care with an excellent learning experience for the senior dental student. The place of graduate education and research in the overall dental program becomes more established each year.

The School of Nursing has completed a successful year during which time the new four-year degree program was implemented. The response of high school students to this program was very gratifying. The Director of the School, Miss R. E. McClure, feels strongly that, because The University of Alberta is the only School of Nursing in the Province offering a program of study at the baccalaureate level, we must overcome any curtailment of enrollment if we are to provide the well qualified nurses required to meet the needs of anticipated expansion of health services.

In July, 1966, Dr. Carpendale resigned as Director of the School of Rehabilitation Medicine and accepted an appointment in

MacKENZIE



New York. He has been succeeded recently by Dr. John B. Redford who has been appointed Professor and Director of the School of Rehabilitation Medicine. Dr. Redford, a native of Canada, was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Medical College of Virginia prior to his new appointment. In September, 1967, the School of Rehabilitation Medicine, as part of its planned expansion, will double its first year class and, in addition, will offer a new program of training for teachers of occupational therapy.

In all health science faculties the academic staff have continued to take an active role in professional associations, pro-

vincial, national and international. They have participated in continuing education programs at home and abroad and have acquitted themselves with distinction.

Our research programs are attracting increasing support from national and international granting bodies in competition with all the health science faculties of Canada and the United States. The Faculty of Medicine, alone, has engendered extramural research support for the ensuing year which will approximate two million dollars.

Eminent Chancellor, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to conclude by quoting from the recent report of the Millis Commission*: "No physician by himself has all

the knowledge and skills necessary to provide all of his patients with optimal health care. Specialization implies division of responsibility. But the patient is undivided. Programs of undergraduate and graduate medical education should therefore give greater emphasis to the training of physicians for co-operative effort with members of other health professions in order that each patient may be provided with the combination of skills and knowledge best adapted to his particular needs."

*A Commission for the American Medical Association, headed by Dr. John S. Millis, President of Western Reserve University, Cleveland; its report, *Graduate Education of Physicians*, was published in September.